

Madam Speaker, today I have the privilege in joining my colleagues in honoring this distinguished gentleman and good friend by designating the U.S. courthouse located on 131 East 4th Street in Davenport, Iowa, as the "James A. Leach United States Courthouse".

A TRIBUTE TO DIXON OSBURN

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2007

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to C. Dixon Osburn, who, as co-founder and Executive Director of Servicemembers Legal Defense Network (SLDN), led the national movement to repeal "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" for the past fourteen years. Under his leadership, SLDN has moved our nation many miles closer to its goal of freedom to serve in our Nation's Armed Forces without regard to sexual orientation.

It has been my honor to work with Dixon for many years to improve the lives of lesbian, gay and bisexual service members. Our work is not done, but one day "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" will take its place among the relics of history and be replaced by a fairer, better policy that truly honors the patriotism of all Americans. And we will remember Dixon and the foundation he built with Servicemembers Legal Defense Network.

I wish Dixon all the best in his future endeavors, and I thank him for his significant contribution to improving our Nation's Armed Forces.

HONORING ACACIA MASONIC LODGE #163

HON. TIM MAHONEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2007

Mr. MAHONEY of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise tonight to congratulate the Acacia Masonic Lodge of Martin County, Florida on their 100th anniversary and commend them for all the good work they do throughout the community.

This very special anniversary in Florida's 16th District makes the Acacia Masonic Lodge, #163 of Free and Accepted Masons, the oldest organization in Martin County. Knowing what good work they do in the area, I wanted to honor them by highlighting some of their achievements.

Graduating seniors from all of Martin County's high schools, sick children in local hospitals and senior citizens residing in local residential homes are just a few of the beneficiaries of the Acacia Masons' charity. Over the years, they have donated over \$100,000 to worthy causes throughout Martin County.

Not only have the Acacia Masons given financial support to Martin County, they have also been a visible bastion of good work in our community. Since 1964, the Acacia Masons have laid the cornerstone of every Martin County public school, symbolizing the value they place on education for all the children in the area.

The Masons' motto is, "Take a good man and make him a better man." Having met

many of them personally, I can confirm that the Free Masons in Martin County are certainly practicing what they preach; and judging by the strength of their organization, I am certain they will still be supporting the Martin County community a hundred years from now.

Madam Speaker, please join me in commending the Acacia Masonic Lodge for a century of unwavering commitment and support of Martin County and all who reside there.

HONORING BURGESS (B.J.) ETZEL

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2007

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a life-long Texan, a personal friend, and a great leader in our community. Burgess Etzel, or B.J. as most of us know him, was born in Roundtop, Texas. After finishing high school there, he went on to attend Blinn College, and then to my alma mater, the University of Houston.

After graduation, B.J. began his work in the communications industry. Hired as a cable splicing helper in 1957 in what was then the Plant Department in Houston, he continued this work until 1969. At that time he was transferred to Network Operations as a Communications Technician.

In 1987, after serving as Job, Chief, and District Stewards for over two decades, B.J. was elected President of the Communications Workers of America Local 6222. In this position, he represented over 7,000 bargaining unit employees working for SWB Telephone, SWB Yellow Pages, SWB Wireless, AT&T, Lucent Technologies, and printing sector in metro Houston and surrounding areas in the Southeast Texas region.

Despite his busy schedule as President of the CWA Local 6222, B.J. also found time to serve on the board of trustees of the United Way of the Texas Gulf Coast, and raise four children with his wife Frances.

B.J. has served as a leader in all phases of local organizing drives, and all legislative and community service work. I would like to thank B.J. for his service to the CWA and its members, and congratulate him for having the flag pole dedicated to him on May 19, 2007.

BREAST CANCER AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH ACT

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2007

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the over 3 million women living with breast cancer, in strong support of the Breast Cancer and Environmental Research Act. Breast cancer remains the leading cause of death among women between the ages of 40 and 55. My sister-in-law was among them, having died at the age of only 41. While important advances have been made, we still do not know what causes this disease, or how to prevent it.

Scientific evidence as to the role the environment plays in the development of breast

cancer is scarce. There is a clear need for research on the relationship between environmental factors and breast cancer. The Breast Cancer and Environmental Research Act would facilitate such research by establishing a national strategy to study the link between the environment and breast cancer by creating multi-institutional, multi-disciplinary centers that study the environmental factors that contribute to the disease.

Although there are currently 221 cosponsors, this legislation has yet to have a hearing in committee. If we are going to make a serious commitment to preventing and curing breast cancer we must pass this legislation so that one day we can announce that our mothers, daughters, sisters, and friends are free of this disease.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this bill and pass the Breast Cancer and Environmental Research Act.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE PASSING OF SERGEANT TIMOTHY PADGETT, UNITED STATES ARMY

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2007

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor SGT Timothy Padgett, United States Army. Sergeant Padgett, known as Timmy, gave his life in defense of our Nation while serving in Tarin Kwot, Afghanistan, on May 8, 2007. Sergeant Padgett was serving as a Green Beret with the 1st Battalion, 7th Special Forces Group based in Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

Timmy was raised in DeFuniak Springs, Florida, and graduated from Walton High School in 1997. A former firefighter paramedic with the South Walton Fire District, our local paper, the Northwest Florida Daily News, reported "A lot of firefighters knew him well, and the close-knit group is taking the news of his death real hard, said Deputy Fire Chief Sean Hughes. 'He was a great guy,' Hughes said. Most people knew Padgett by his big smile, which he almost always wore. His fellow firefighters often called him 'smiling Tim,' Hughes said."

Timmy's mother, Glenda Penton, resides in DeFuniak Springs and has been remarkably steady since her son's passing. I spoke with Glenda two days after the horrible news and she was gracious and proud of her son. I was so impressed and inspired by her. I don't know if I could have been the same way so soon after learning of the loss of a loved one.

I am always reminded of the greatness of our country due to the resiliency of people like Glenda Penton and the bravery of people like her son Timmy. We have an all volunteer military and continue to ask our sons and daughters to travel to faraway lands to fight for our freedom and these sons and daughters continue to answer the call.

The people of DeFuniak Springs have reason to be proud of Sergeant Padgett, and I am humbled to be able to represent those people, as well as the memory of Sergeant Padgett, for am I equally proud. Vicki and I will keep Timmy's entire family, especially his 8 year-old daughter, Summer Lynn, in our